

**Senate Bill No. 1589**

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Passed the Senate August 31, 2006

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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Passed the Assembly August 28, 2006

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_M.

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*Private Secretary of the Governor*

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

An act to add Section 1756.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to the Division of Juvenile Justice.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1589, Romero. Division of Juvenile Justice: specialized programs.

The Division of Juvenile Justice is vested with all the powers, functions, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of the former Youth Authority. The Division of Juvenile Justice consists of the Division of Juvenile Facilities, the Division of Juvenile Programs, and the Division of Juvenile Parole Operations under the Chief Deputy of Juvenile Justice, each headed by a chief who is appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation.

This bill would require the Division of Juvenile Justice to explore options to provide specialized programs outside of division facilities for female juvenile offenders, taking into account availability and the protection of the public. The bill would also require the division to provide programs either in division facilities or in secure facilities operated under the supervision of the division, as specified. The bill would further require the division to ensure that the requirements of the division's Safety and Welfare Remedial Plan, any subsequent remedial plan, or any subsequent legislative plan are met by outside contracting entities, if any, and would also require legislative approval for the transfer of the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility to the Division of Adult Institutions, if contemplated.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The Legislature believes that the Division of Juvenile Justice shall provide female wards with the necessary programs and training to rehabilitate the majority of those female wards.

Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature that the division seeks to enter into contracts to place female wards with providers outside of division facilities.

(b) If governmental entities can provide gender-specific programs that are equal to programs that can be provided by qualified private parties, it is further the intent of the Legislature that preference be given to placing those females with governmental entities.

SEC. 2. Section 1756.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

1756.5. (a) The Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore options to provide specialized programs outside of division facilities for female offenders, if those programs are available and consistent with the protection of the public. Specialized programs for these offenders shall take into account commitment offenses, delinquency history, age, gender, medical and mental health condition, risk levels, and any other commitment criteria.

(b) The Division of Juvenile Justice may also consider changes with respect to eligibility, age, jurisdiction, or length of confinement in order to ensure quality programs within division facilities.

(c) (1) Given the small number of female offenders and their specialized needs, the Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore options to provide programs for female offenders in either division facilities or secure facilities outside of division facilities operated under the supervision of the Division of Juvenile Justice, if providing programs in those facilities is consistent with the protection of the public. The division shall transfer female offenders into those facilities as expediently as possible.

(2) If the Division of Juvenile Justice contracts with outside entities to provide services to female wards as authorized in paragraph (1), the division shall ensure that those contracting entities will meet the requirements of the division's Safety and Welfare Remedial Plan, dated July 10, 2006, particularly the requirement that females receive gender-specific services equal to those provided to males under the rehabilitative model, any subsequently agreed to remedial plan, or any plan subsequently authorized by the Legislature.

(3) If the Division of Juvenile Justice wishes to transfer control of the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility to the

Division of Adult Institutions, the Division of Juvenile Justice shall seek the approval of the Legislature.







Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

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*Governor*